ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

President: I have received notices of six adjournment motions. The first is from Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair. It reads thus :—

"I intend asking for leave to move for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance namely the situation created by the irresponsible and unjustified indifference of the Police as disclosed by the events at Neyyattinkara on 25-7-1113, Nedunganda on 5-11-1113, Shertalai on 5-11-1113 and Chengannoor on 11-11-1113."

Before I go further with the matter, does the Honourable Member wish to make himself responsible for the statement that these incidents were due to the irresponsible and unjustified indifference of the police?

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Yes, Sir.

President: The matter is not of recent occurrence. It has been completely discussed all over the country and in regard to Chengannoor it is *sub judice*. I rule the motion out of order as not being a matter of recent occurrence or of urgent importance.

(2) The next motion is in the name of Mr. T. K. Kittan. It is as follows,

"I intend moving for the adjournment of the business of the council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation created by the unjustified lathi charge on students and others, by the Reserve Police, in and around the premises of the Science College on the evening of 31-11-1113."

STATEMENT.

"That a lathi charge took place on the evening of 31-11-1113 on students and others as alleged in the motion above is admitted. It is learnt that Government have constituted an Official Committee consisting of three educational officers to enquire into the conduct of students, but the motion is comprehensive enough to include not only the conduct of students, but of the authorities and the Reserve Police and the public. The matter does not solely concern students or discipline in educational institutions. The damage caused to property left lawfully on the premises cannot possibly be matter for enquiry by the committee."

The subject matter of this motion is not of recent occurrence. The Government have appointed a committee to enquire into the matter and the matter has been fully discussed. I understand there is another committee also functioning. But the matter is not one of urgent importance nor of recent occurrence. Therefore, I rule the motion out of order.

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(3) There is another motion standing in the name of Mr. Korah. It reads as follows.

"I intend asking for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the house for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the illegal interference of Government Officers in canvassing support against the State Congress candidate in the recent Assembly elections at Mavelikara, by means of intimidation, personal violence, and undue influence brought to bear on the electors."

This is a matter which ought to have been raised in the form of an election petition. Grounds such as intimidation, personal violence and undue influence that where brought to bear on the electors are just the grounds which can be taken up in the form of election petition. It is a well-known rule in regard to adjournment motions that if there are legal remedies available in regard to those matters and those legal remedies have not been availed of during many months then such points cannot be raised in the form of adjournment. Morevover, it is not a matter of recent occurrence. As there are other remedies open to the aggrieved party to prove these matters in a judicial tribunal, I rule the motion out of order.

(4) The next motion is from Mr. R. V. Thomas.

It reads thus.

"I intend moving for the adjournment of the business of the council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the serious situation created in the country by the rude shock sustained by the credit institution in the State by the Press Note published by the Government under date the 27th July 1938 to the effect that "several small banking institutions in the State are finding difficulty in meeting the demands of depositors for repayment", that "there is a continual slow drain of money with no corresponding deposits" and that therefore the Government propose to conduct an examination of the system of accounts of all banks in the State."

I wish to know what the serious situation created in the country referred to by Mr. Thomas is.

Mr. R. V. Thomas (*Todupuzha* cum *Meenachil*): There are very serious runs on small institutions on account of the Press Note published by Government.

President: It was in order to prevent the run which had already started and to infuse belief in the mind of the people in banking institution and to restore confidence to the depositors that this Press Note was issued. In any case the matter is of urgent importance. If the honourable member wishes to move it, he can do so. But the question is whether the discussion in this

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[President.]

house will not make it more serious from the point of view of the various Banks. There are many reasons why such a discussion would not be in public interest. But if the honourable member wishes to have a discussion he can do so. Does he press it?

Mr. R. V. Thomas : In view of the remarks made by the President that the discussion would lead to heavier run on these institutions, I do not press it.

President : The next motion for adjournment by Mr. N.V. Chakko is :—

> "I intend asking leave to move for the adjournment of the business of the house, for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance namely the need for taking immediate steps for the grant of responsible Government in Travancore under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja."

This is a matter that has already been dealt with elsewhere, but as it is very important I shall deal with it shortly here. In the first place, as remarked elsewhere, this is not a matter of urgent importance. The question of responsible Government has been before the country for many years and so far as one can judge it will be before the country for a long time to come. The question of responsible Government and the grant of responsible Government are also not matters which can be discussed under an adjournment motion, because, as will be seen, a motion which cannot be brought up as a resolution cannot be moved as an adjournment motion. Dealing with resolutions it will be noticed that no discussion shall be permitted in regard to any matter removed from the cognisance of the Chamber under Section 17 of the Regulation. Section 17 makes it clear that no amendment of this Regulation or the Rules made thereunder can be the subject of discussion in this House. Therefore, technically, this motion cannot be discussed. Apart from that, it is not a matter of urgent importance because the matter will have to be discussed and has been discussed for many years and there are many aspects of it, many interests to be consulted and many considerations pertinent to it and so it is not a matter which forms the subject of an adjournment motion. As a matter of adjournment motion it is thus incompetent and I rule it out of order.

The last motion is from Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla which reads thus :—

> "I intend moving for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation created in the country by the declaration made by the Dewan, and the Chief Secretary to Government of Travancore that the Travancore State Congress is disloyal and subversive."

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This motion is in order and it is a matter of urgent public importance and if the honourable member Mr. Kuruvilla wishes to press it, it will be admitted and taken for discussion today. Do you wish to raise that question, Mr. Kuruvilla ?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla (*Mavelikara and Thiruvella cum Pattanamthitta*): Yes, Sir.

President: The adjournment motion is admitted and it will be taken up for discussion at 3-30 this afternon.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail (*Nominated*): Sir, in view of the fact that only one day is set apart for general discussion and 1½ hours is to be taken for adjournment motion, may I know whether this House will be permitted to continue its discussion for any further time ?

President: Certainly not. It is a well known fact that only one day is allowed for general discussion and if one and a half hours is to be taken for adjournment motion, general discussion will be cut short to that extent.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: I do not wish to press it if the time for general discussion is to be curtailed.

President: If I may say so, without any idea of wounding the susceptibilities of honourable members, the whole discussion of the budget is to take place today and only one day is given for that purpose. Perhaps some of these matters which the honourable members have in their minds can also be raised at the time of the general discussion and replied to as part of the general discussion. I think that would be the better plan. So do you press your motion, Mr. Kuruvilla ?

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: I do not press it.

MESSAGE.

Secretary: Sir, under Rule 47 I beg to state that the amendment made by the Sri Chitra State Council to the Travancore Hindu Widows' Remarriage Bill has been agreed to by the Sri Mulam Assembly.

REGULATIONS ASSENTED TO BY HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA.

Secretary: Sir, I beg to announce that the Travancore Credit Bank Bill has received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja.

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